

THE COMMONWEALTH.

Thursday, Oct. 19, 1882.

ENTERED AT THE POST OFFICE AT SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., AS SECOND CLASS MAIL MATTER.

D. E. STANBACK, EDITOR.

Leach: My God! fellow citizens, Ohio, Ohio, and he fell into the arms of Mott and wept.

Let North Carolina cover herself all over with glory this fall by consigning the Liberals and their allies to that hour from whence no Liberal will ever return.

The Liberals are ever calling out, "Bourbon Democracy." If a party is Bourbon because it advocates honest government, low tariff and a repeal of this infamous internal revenue system, then we rejoice to belong to the Bourbon Democracy.

If you want the worst government the world ever saw, and at the highest price, call yourself a Liberal and vote the Radical ticket; but if you wish the best government for the least money, stand by the Democratic party.

It is claimed that the protective system helps those employed in protected industrial establishments the workmen in factories, mills, forges and mines. How does it help them? By furnishing work? Not exactly. There are no imposts at the Custom House on imports of labor. The employer buys his labor where he can get it cheapest, in an open market absolutely without restriction. Let him be made to sell his goods in the same free market that he buys the labor to make the goods.

BOSSISM IN VIRGINIA.

HOW MAHONE GOVERNS HIS FOLLOWERS—SAD SPECTACLE FOR FREEMEN—A DISGUSTED REPUBLICAN ON AFFAIRS IN THE OLD DOMINION.

RICHMOND, Oct. 7, 1882.

To the Editor of the Herald:—

Before the late war I was in the habit of going South every year to visit a cot on plantation I owned in Georgia, and it was my custom to stop in Virginia going and returning. Three times since the war I have made the same trip and the same stoppages, and having been out of business since 1872 I have taken my time. I was here at Old Point for the first four months of this year, and am here again, and it occurred to me that some of the observations and reflections of a New York republican—for I am a New Yorker and a republican—uld not be without interest to my now-readers of the Herald.

I was in Richmond during a large part of both the regular and extra session of the late Assembly, and made the acquaintance of several of the members, who were stopping at the same hotel. The most noteworthy thing in the present political aspect of the State—for it is of that I speak—is the abject servility of so many of the white people. Familiar as I was before the war with representative men in Virginia, and fully aware of the high spirit, the manliness and independence which then characterized them. I am amazed at the depth of person degradation to which their children have fallen. It almost defies belief, but it is an undoubted fact. For example, before Mahone permitted the people who followed him to nominate their candidates for the Legislature last year he demanded a written pledge from such candidates, under hand and seal, that they would vote for no man or principle or bill that his caucus did not approve and endorse! And the abject creatures gave him the pledge. Out of Virginia such servility, I presume, would be impossible; certainly it has never, to my knowledge, been exhibited. During the session of the Assembly Senator Mahone left his seat in Washington and established himself at a drinking saloon near the Capitol, where I saw him several times, and he dictated legislation from this room shop. It was publicly stated on the streets and in the Assembly that whenever any railroad measure was proposed to the committee having charge of considering such legislation the draft of the bill was invariably sent to Mahone, whether he was in Washington, and nothing was done or decided about it until his pleasure was known in the matter. The novelty of his position in the Second District, I think it is, that formerly representatives by Mr. Goode for several years—Spaulding—did not visit Mahone, and he ordered him to resign from the Convention to reassemble and elect another, which it forthwith did. In another district the people of the party nominated a gentleman named Winfield Scott whom Mahone for

some reason did not think available, and disclaiming even the formality of again appealing to the people he ordered the county chairman of the district to come to his home in Washington, and there, outside not only of the Congressional district, but outside of the State, he deposed the candidate nominated by the people and ordered them to support another—one Simms! And they are doing it. Indeed, the wonderful part of it is, that the slaves do, with the patience of oxen, whatever their master orders.

RAILROADS SUBSERVIENT. Terrified at the power which a master so absolute, governing legislative slaves so abject must possess in an assembly, the railroad corporations of the State knelt at his feet. He ordered them to displace officers from the highest down, and they obeyed. He ordered one to take a certain partisan whom he had trained in the railroad he bankrupted for their purchasing agent; and they meekly obeyed. Others he ordered to displace officers, attorneys, way agents, even telegraph operators, and they obeyed. Finally he demanded of the Norfolk and Western the displacement of its vice president, a man whose talent gave Mahone all the railroad reputation of value which he enjoys, and to his furious amazement it refused. Straightway he introduced a bill putting the railways of the State under the absolute control of a commission to be appointed by the Governor, a facile tool of Mahone.

This corporation, being governed by Northern men unused to the servility of Virginians, peremptorily insisted on its refusal. Had Virginians been at its head it would have got on its knees promptly.

Such things would have been impossible in Virginia before 1861, and would now be impossible in any State whose citizens had not lost the marrow of their bones. The race of man in Virginia is extinct. Other people with instincts of manliness and courage must come here and take possession of the business, the industries, the farms of the State, or it will soon be unfit to raise honest children in.

I have seen efforts like Mahone's in other States, but never methods like his. Other bosses had some respect for their slaves. He does not even profess any. Others tried to disguise the fetters they put on their underlings. Mahone makes them parade them. He puts collars on his cattle and brands them and requires them to exhibit their collars and boast their branding. And the wonder is the creatures do it.

The secret of this universal degradation is the poverty and the inability or unwillingness to work of so many of these people. A few days since I inquired whether an old friend with whom in antebellum days I had many a tilt in conversation was still living, and was told he was. I then asked if he was as much of a fire-eater secessionist as he used to be—for he was a leader of the Calhoun democracy when I knew him in 1850 to 1860. My friend said, "No, he is a meek Mahoneite." This amazed me, for he was as headstrong and self-respecting a gentleman when I knew him as ever lived. I asked, "How is that?" "Well, he was very poor, and he holds a little secure office under the government with which Mahone bought him body and soul."

Such is the story of many—of most of his adherents.

MAKING REPUBLICANS.

So abject are Mahone's slaves that he has now undertaken to convert them by his mere will into republicans. Of course if some honest republican leadership shall hereafter control his cattle I shall rejoice, but such things are not fit to govern a State nor are they fit material to make a patriotic party.

Of course he has no political principles of his own. Indeed, he has a few phrases and the greed of arbitrary power which such adulation as he encounters feel. He, however, is not such a phenomenon as this people who endure such shame and glory in it. Of course they have no principle. Thirty thousand men who voted for Hancock in 1880 are expected now to support Arthur, and their platforms and county meetings and candidates all announce that resolution. Such creatures do not, of course, know what principle means. But this spectacle of millions of men, the majority of Washington, so debased as to change to their own uses as they are ordered, is not only disgusting—it is alarming. Is this the outcome of free institutions in the foremost State in the Revolution?

CLINTON.

Persons recovering from wasting diseases, such as malaria, fevers, etc., will be greatly benefitted by using Brown's Iron Bitters, a true tonic.

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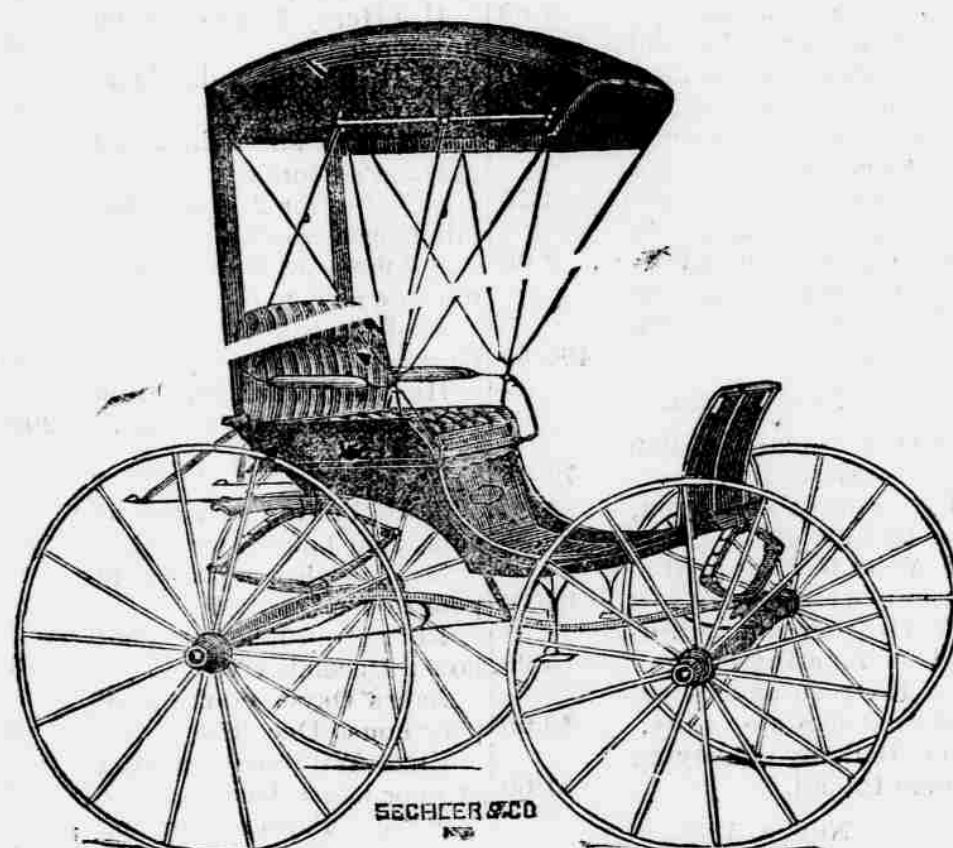
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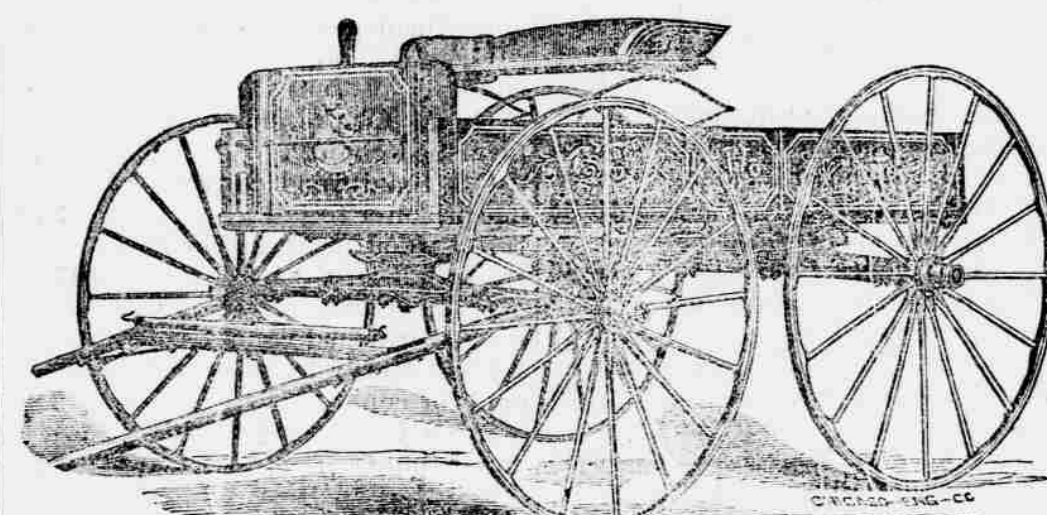


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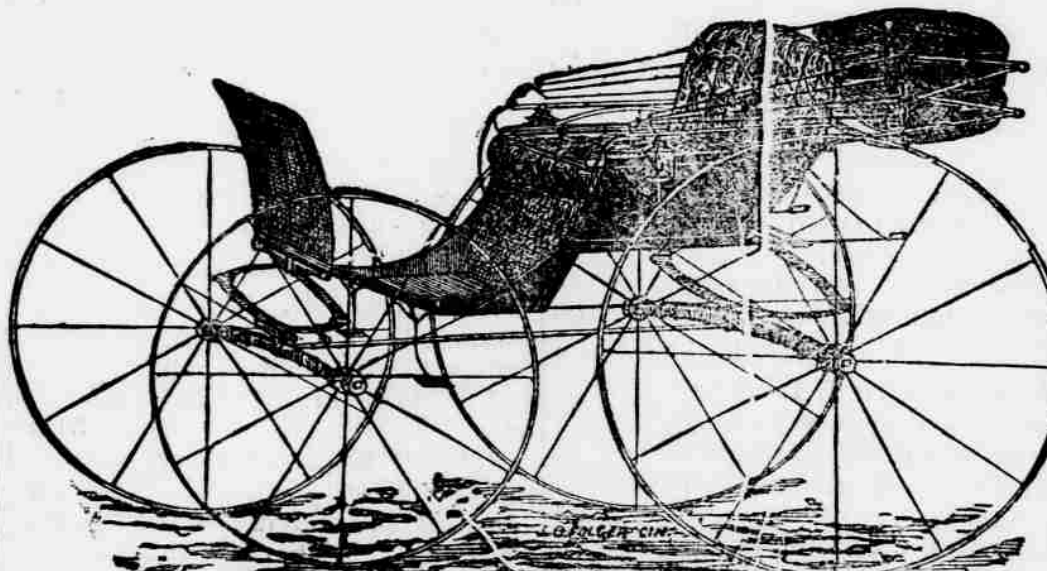
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We tender thanks for past favors, and hope to merit a continuance the same in future. We will be pleased to see our old friends personally or receive their orders by mail.

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